

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) An object identifier reader, comprising:

a processor;

a storage medium;

an image buffer;

a main task; and

a data task;

wherein the main task is executed by the processor to:

read an object identifier to obtain data, the data comprising an image of the object identifier;

store the data in the image buffer;

signal the data task that the image of the object identifier is stored in the image buffer; and

wait for the data task to signal that the image buffer is no longer needed; and

wherein the data task is executed by the processor to:

receive a signal from the main task indicating that the image of the object identifier is available;

determine ~~check~~ if the object identifier reader is ~~[[not]]~~ connected to the host computing device;[[,]]

attempt to connect the object identifier reader to the host computing device if the object identifier reader is not connected to the host computing device;

~~check if the object identifier reader is connected to the host computing device;~~

attempt to send the image of the object identifier to the host computing device if the object identifier reader is connected to the host computing device;

~~check if the attempt to connect the object identifier reader to the host computing device is unsuccessful and if the attempt to send the image of the object identifier to the host computing device is unsuccessful, store the image of the object identifier in the storage medium~~ if the attempt to connect the object identifier reader to the host computing device is unsuccessful or if the attempt to send the image of the object identifier to the host computing device is unsuccessful; and

signal the main task that the image buffer is no longer needed.

34. (Currently Amended) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein:

the object identifier reader further comprises a data task buffer;

the main task is executed by the processor to:

read an additional object identifier to obtain non-image data;

place the non-image data in the data task buffer; and

signal the data task that the non-image data is in the data task buffer; and

the data task is executed by the processor to:

receive a signal from the main task indicating that the non-image data is ~~available~~ in the data task buffer;

~~check if the object identifier reader is connected to the host computing device;~~

attempt to send the non-image data in the data task buffer to the host computing device if the object identifier reader is connected to the host computing device; and

~~check if the attempt to connect the object identifier reader to the host computing~~

~~device is unsuccessful and if the attempt to send the non-image data to the host computing device is unsuccessful, store the non-image data in the storage medium if the attempt to connect the object identifier reader to the host computing device is unsuccessful or if the attempt to send the non-image data to the host computing device is unsuccessful.~~

35. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein the object identifier reader is configured to clear the data from the storage medium when the stored data is sent to the host computing device.

36. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein the storage medium comprises non-volatile storage.

37. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 36, wherein the storage medium further comprises volatile storage.

38. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 33, further comprising an additional storage medium for storing a copy of the data as a log.

39. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein the object identifier reader is configured to save metadata in the storage medium to differentiate buffered data from log data.

40. (Previously Presented) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein the object identifier reader is configured to disconnect from the host computing device if the object identifier reader is connected to the host computing device and the object identifier reader does

not have any data to send to the host computing device.

41. (Currently Amended) The object identifier reader of claim 33, wherein the object identifier reader is configured to enter a power-saving mode if the storage medium is empty [[and]] or if the object identifier reader cannot connect to the host computing device after a period of time.